

**COLUSA COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Public Meeting**

**July 25, 2000**

A meeting of the Advisory Council for the Colusa County Children and Families Commission was held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Yuba College Career Resource Center, 570 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Williams, California. Present: Priscilla Buchanan, Bonnie Wilson, Dolores Gomez, Nancy Parriott, Carole Ricci, Susan Rawlins, Christy Scofield, Kevin Wheeler, Ben Balatbat, Helen Fink, Sandy Huff, Anne Doyle, Deneen Torres, Tish Nerli.

Items discussed and actions taken in accordance with the publicly-posted agenda were as follows:

**1. Introductions**

Colusa County Children and Families Commission Chairperson Christy Scofield started the meeting with group introductions and then turned facilitation over to Sarah Longaker, consultant from Social Entrepreneurs, Inc.

**2. Review of information prepared on the topic of Improved Family Functioning**

The group reviewed the materials distributed for the purpose of developing specific strategies for the two previously identified goals and their three related objectives. The materials included Goals and Objectives, Community Needs and Interests, and Potential Strategies to Consider. The goals and objectives that were the focus of the meeting:

Goal 3.1 All children are born with the best possible physical health at birth.

Objective 3.1.1 Increase early access to adequate prenatal health care for pregnant women.

Goal 3.2 Children remain healthy during their formative years from birth to age 5.

Objective 3.2.1 Increase access to medical and dental care for children age 0-5.

Objective 3.2.2 Increase the knowledge and skill of parents regarding child health.

In reviewing the information, several existing and emerging resources were identified:

- The rural health clinics pay a higher Medi-Cal reimbursement rate to their providers.
- If parents have to choose between a WIC visit and a medical visit they frequently will choose WIC; the WIC offices provide a forum for reaching parents.
- The Tobacco Settlement funds can be leveraged to support many of the strategies.

**3. Identify and prioritize the strategies that should be pursued in Colusa County in order to achieve the objectives in the area of Improved Child Health**

The group brainstormed a variety of potential strategies and identified which objective(s) each addressed. After listing the strategies the group prioritized them into their "A" list. Prioritization was done by having each person vote for their top six action priorities. The results are shown in the following table (total votes are out of 14 possible).

Votes	Obj.	Strategy
11*	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Expand the physician and provider base within the County, including mid-level providers (i.e. physician's assistants, nurse practitioners).
11	3.1.1 3.2.1	Sponsor a vehicle dedicated solely for transporting families to medical and dental appointments.
8	3.2.2	Use WIC visits as opportunity to provide educational information about healthy pregnancies.
8	3.1.1 3.2.1	Support existing medical and dental services and infrastructures in order to keep services in the County.
7	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Develop home visiting nurse program for pregnant women and families with children 0-5 for Perinatal issues.
6*	3.2.1 3.2.2	Expand current level of access (to pediatric doctor at the Indian Health Clinic from half day per week to full day or more.
5	3.1.1 3.2.1	Expand [currently limited] use and promotion of travel vouchers in order to get families to preventative and diagnostic (lab and x-ray) care appointments.
3	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Develop materials and print and electronic media, including Spanish language formats, to educate parents and community on children's health issues.
3	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Work with the judicial/court system to establish mandatory participation in education and treatment programs, which have a case management component, for family members involved in domestic violence and/or drug and alcohol abuse situations.
3	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Support and expand the Perinatal Outreach Education program from its current [limited] hours and client base in order to reach the broader population.
3	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Support programs that mentor and/or case manage families in order to increase follow-through on medical and/or dental referrals for their children.
3	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Purchase/outfit a mobilized medical and dental services van to travel county-wide serving families.
2	3.2.2	Educate the community on the specific health services provided by the County Health Department.
2	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Conduct/support outreach efforts in order to identify pregnant women with drug and/or alcohol abuse in order to get them into care.
2	3.1.1 3.2.1	Support the expansion of the Rural Health Clinic sites within the county.
2	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Expand the Healthy Families program enrollment within the County.
2	3.1.1 3.2.1	Develop prescheduled health clinics through out the county; coordinate and subsidize travel to the clinics with county transportation providers.
1	3.2.2	Expand the number of bi-lingual classes for victims of domestic violence.
1	3.2.2	Develop and implement education programs for the Healthy Families and Medi-Cal programs and include a one-on-one support component.
1	3.1.1 3.2.1	Expand the dental provider base, especially those treating pregnant women and young children.
0	3.2.2	Develop a public relations campaign to support and promote healthy pregnancies and aftercare, i.e. "Not in Our County" (meaning unhealthy pregnancies and children).
0	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Expand Medi-Cal program enrollment within the County.
0	3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Develop and promote transit incentives to increase use of transit to medical/dental appointments.

- \* After prioritizing the list, the group decided to combine two of the strategies into one strategy, resulting in a total vote for the combination of 17. The reworded strategy is listed first in the following table.

#### 4. For high priority strategies, identify potential partnerships

All strategies with 5 or more votes were designated as the "A" list.

The group then identified partners for each strategy, representing organizations or groups that can play an important role in the success of the strategy. The strategies and initial list of potential partners are captured in the following table.

Obj.	Strategy	Partners
3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Expand the existing physician and provider base and access to services, including mid-level providers (i.e. physician's assistants, nurse practitioners, pediatric doctor(s) working at the Indian Health Clinic).	Colusa Hospital, UC Davis, Indian Community, existing local practitioners, Colusa Hospital Foundation.
3.1.1 3.2.1	Sponsor a vehicle dedicated solely for transporting families to medical and dental appointments.	Colusa Transit, Colusa Cab Company, Yuba Sutter Medical Transport.
3.2.2	Use WIC visits as opportunity to provide educational information about healthy pregnancies.	Del Norte Clinic, Maternal Child Health, Community Perinatal Service Program, Perinatal Outreach Education, individual doctors/practitioners.
3.1.1 3.2.1	Support existing medical and dental services and infrastructures in order to keep services in the County.	Business Community, Schools, Economic Development District, Chambers of Commerce, Civic and Service Organizations, Colusa Hospital, UC Davis, Indian Community, existing local practitioners, Colusa Hospital Foundation
3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.2	Develop home visiting nurse program for pregnant women and families with children 0-5 for Perinatal issues.	County Health Department, Colusa Hospital, Home Health, Social Services, Behavioral Health.
3.1.1 3.2.1	Expand [currently limited] use and promotion of travel vouchers in order to get families to preventative and diagnostic (lab and x-ray) care appointments.	Individual practitioners, County Health Department, Colusa Hospital, Colusa Transit, Colusa Cab Company, Yuba Sutter Medical Transport.

The remaining two Advisory Council meetings will be held on August 8 and August 15. Mike Smith will prepare agendas for the meetings and get notices out to everyone.

The meeting concluded at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Sarah Longaker, consultant to the Colusa County Children and Families Commission.